

## THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

January 25, 2022

His Excellency Khurelsukh Ukhnaa President of Mongolia Ulaanbaatar

Dear Mr. President:

I write to celebrate our 35 years of diplomatic relations. The United States is proud to be Mongolia's Strategic Partner and third neighbor. As we look toward the future, we are committed to supporting your efforts to strengthen democratic institutions, uphold rule of law, and diversify your economy.

Looking back on our 35 years of relations, it is striking to see how our relationship, built on shared democratic values, has grown and prospered. Our people-to-people ties are the bedrock of our strong relations. More than 500 Mongolians and Americans have enrolled in Fulbright exchange programs since they started in Mongolia in 1994, expanding cross-cultural engagement and promoting mutual understanding. The United States has also sent almost 1,500 Peace Corps volunteers to Mongolia, and we look forward to resuming our program in country as soon as possible.

The steadfast and productive military ties between our two nations reflect our broader partnership. I am grateful to Mongolia for its contributions to international peacekeeping and coalition operations in Africa, Iraq, and Afghanistan for more than two decades. The Mongolian military has developed an international reputation as professional peacekeepers and soldiers, and we look forward to working with you to further expand our cooperation through our joint military exercises.

Even in times of extreme challenge, we have found ways to support each other. The Omicron variant is a fresh reminder that we must work collectively to end the COVID-19 pandemic and build back better. The people of the United States are grateful for Mongolia's donation of personal protective equipment (PPE) in June 2020, which was put to good use on a Navajo reservation in Arizona, which was hit especially hard by COVID-19. The United States is also proud to have donated over one million doses of the Pfizer vaccine to Mongolia, as well as more than \$8 million worth of assistance to support Mongolia's pandemic response, including ventilators, PPE, critical care training, and messaging campaigns to support COVID-19 prevention.

I am also proud of numerous projects our two countries are implementing, including the historic Millennium Challenge Corporations \$350 million water compact and our \$15 million effort through the U.S. Agency for International Development to assist small and medium-sized enterprises and promote entrepreneurship in Mongolia.

Looking to the future, we see Mongolia as an indispensable partner in combatting climate change, strengthening global health security, expanding the deployment of renewable energy, and ensuring equitable and sustainable economic growth.

As we observe this important milestone in our diplomatic relations, I am heartened by what we have accomplished. I am equally confident that the decades ahead will strengthen us further still.

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